Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

The House passed H.R. 4181, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the increased standard deduction, and the 15-percent individual income tax rate bracket expansion, for married taxpayers filing joint returns.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S4445-S4624

Measures Introduced: Seven bills and four resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2353–2359, S. J. Res. 35, S. Res. 344–345, and S. Con. Res. 101.

Pages S4492-93

Measures Passed:

National Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Month: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 168, designating May 2004 as "National Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Month", and the resolution was then agreed to.

Page S4622

National Railroad Hall of Fame: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 255, supporting the National Railroad Hall of Fame, Inc., of Galesburg, Illinois, in its endeavor to erect a monument known as the National Railroad Hall of Fame, and the resolution was then agreed to.

Pages \$4622-23

National Good Neighbor Day: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 340, expressing the sense of the Senate that the President should designate September 26, 2004, as "National Good Neighbor Day", and the resolution was then agreed to.

Page S4623

Dia de los Ninos: Celebrating Young Americans: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 342 designating April 30, 2004, as "Dia de los Ninos: Celebrating Young Americans", and the resolution was then agreed to.

Pages \$4623-24

Internet Tax Non-Discrimination Act: Senate continued consideration of S. 150, to make permanent the moratorium on taxes on Internet access and

multiple and discriminatory taxes on electronic commerce imposed by the Internet Tax Freedom Act, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto:

Pages S4453-66, S4474-84

Pending:

McCain Amendment No. 3048, in the nature of a substitute. Pages \$4453-66, \$4474-84

Daschle Amendment No. 3050 (to the language of the bill proposed to be stricken by Amendment No. 3048), to eliminate methyl tertiary butyl ether from the United States fuel supply, to increase production and use of renewable fuel, and to increase the Nation's energy independence.

Pages S4453-66, S4474-84

Domenici Amendment No. 3051 (to Amendment No. 3050), to enhance energy conservation and research and development and to provide for security and diversity in the energy supply for the American people.

Pages S4453-66, S4474-84

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at 11 a.m., on Thursday, April 29, 2004; providing for one hour for debate, and following the use or yielding back of time, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on Daschle Amendment No. 3050 (listed above).

Messages From the House:

Measures Referred:

Executive Communications:

Additional Cosponsors:

Page S4491

Pages S4491–92

Pages S4493–94

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:

Pages S4494-S4505

Additional Statements: Pages \$4489-91
Amendments Submitted: Pages \$4505-4621
Authority for Committees to Meet: Pages \$4621-22

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Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m., and adjourned at 6:16 p.m., until 9:30 a.m., on Thursday, April 29, 2004. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S4624.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

MEDICAL PROGRAMS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense concluded a hearing to examine the state of medical programs in the armed services, focusing on the military system of teaching centers, research and development organizations, health clinics, and field hospitals, including the Force Health Protection, which is a continuum of services designed to create and maintain a healthy and fit military force, after receiving testimony from Lieutenant General James B. Peake, Surgeon General of the Army; Vice Admiral Michael L. Cowan, Surgeon General of the Navy; Lieutenant General George Peach Taylor, Jr., Air Force Surgeon General; Colonel Deborah A. Gutske, Assistant Chief, Army Nurse Corps; Rear Admiral Nancy J. Lescavage, Nurse Corps, U.S. Navy; and Major General Barbara C. Brannon, Assistant Air Force Surgeon General, Nursing Services, and Assistant Air Force Surgeon General, Medical Force Development.

MILITARY FORCE PROTECTION EQUIPMENT

Committee on Armed Services: Committee met in closed session to receive a briefing to discuss the performance of force protection equipment for ground forces in Iraq, including the Up-Armored HMMWV, and potential alternatives to meet force protection needs of the Combatant Commander from General George W. Casey, Jr., USA, Vice Chief of Staff, U.S. Army; and Lieutenant General Richard A. Cody, USA, Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations, G–3.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS POLICY

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee resumed hearings to examine telecommunications policy, focusing on the future of telecom reform, after receiving testimony from Reed E. Hundt, former Chairman, Federal Communications Commission, Adam D. Thierer, Cato Institute, Charles Freguson, Brookings Institution, and Raymond L. Gifford, Progress and Freedom Foundation, all of Washington, D.C.; and George Gilder, Discovery Institute, Seattle, Washington.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee ordered favorably the following bills:

- S. 1071, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior, through the Bureau of Reclamation, to conduct a feasibility study on a water conservation project within the Arch Hurley Conservancy District in the State of New Mexico, with an amendment;
- S. 1097, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to implement the Calfed Bay-Delta Program, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;
- S. 1582, to amend the Valles Preservation Act to improve the preservation of the Valles Caldera, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;
- S. 1687, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study on the preservation and interpretation of the historic sites of the Manhattan Project for potential inclusion in the National Park System, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;
- S. 1778, to authorize a land conveyance between the United States and the City of Craig, Alaska, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;
- S. 1791, to amend the Lease Lot Conveyance Act of 2002 to provide that the amounts received by the United States under that Act shall be deposited in the reclamation fund:
- S. Res. 321, recognizing the loyal service and outstanding contributions of J. Robert Oppenheimer to the United States and calling on the Secretary of Energy to observe the 100th anniversary of Dr. Oppenheimer's birth with appropriate programs at the Department of Energy and the Los Alamos National Laboratory;
- H.R. 1521, to provide for additional lands to be included within the boundary of the Johnstown Flood National Memorial in the State of Pennsylvania; and
- H.R. 3249, to extend the term of the Forest Counties Payments Committee.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded a hearing to examine S. 1134, to reauthorize and improve the programs authorized by the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965, after receiving testimony from David A. Sampson, Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development, Economic Development Administration; James J. Saudade, Vermont Department of Housing and Community Affairs, Montpelier; Gary Gorshing, South Western Oklahoma Development Authority, Burns Flats, on behalf of the National Association of Development Organizations; R. Charles Gatson, Swope Community Builders, Kansas City, Missouri; and Phillip A. Singerman,

Maryland Technology Development Corporation, Rockville, on behalf of the International Economic Development Council.

POWER WHEELCHAIR PROGRAM

Committee on Finance: Committee held a hearing to examine fraud and abuse in Medicare's power wheelchair program, focusing on fraudulent schemes and costly and abusive practices that are taking place in the sale of motorized wheelchairs to Medicare and Medicaid recipients, receiving testimony from Dara Corrigan, Acting Principal Deputy Inspector General, and Herbert Kuhn, Director, Center for Medicare Management, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, both of the Department of Health and Human Services; Leslie G. Aronovitz, Director, Health Care, Program Administration and Integrity Issues, General Accounting Office; Laura Cohen, TriWest region of TRICARE, Tucson, Arizona; Henry Claypool, Advancing Independence, Washington, D.C.; Kay Cox, American Association for Homecare, Alexandria, Virginia; and Rebecca Lewandowski, Klamath Falls, Öregon.

Hearings recessed subject to the call.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Jeffrey D. Feltman, of Ohio, to be Ambassador to Lebanon, Thomas Charles Krajeski, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Yemen, Richard LeBaron, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to Kuwait, James Francis Moriarty, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to Nepal, Michele J. Sison, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the United Arab Emirates, and David Michael Satterfield, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to Jordan, after each nominee testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Constance Berry Newman, to be an Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, who was introduced by Senator Stevens and Delegate Holmes Norton; Aubrey Hooks, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Cote d'Ivoire, Thomas Neil Hull III, of New Hampshire, to be Ambassador to Sierra Leone, and Roger A. Meece, of Washington, to be Ambassador to the Congo, after each nominee testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

GOVERNMENT PURCHASE CARDS

Committee on Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the use and prevention of abuse of government purchase cards, focusing on efforts to streamline the federal acquisition processes,

limited disciplinary actions taken by the Department of Defense relative to the cards, and a continuous monitoring system to limit fraudulent and improper usage, after receiving testimony from Gregory D. Kutz, Director, Financial Management and Assurance, and John J. Ryan, Assistant Director, Office of Special Investigations, both of the General Accounting Office; David K. Steensma, Assistant Inspector General, Contract Management, and Colonel William J. Kelley, Program Director, Data Mining Division, both of the Office of the Inspector General, Department of Defense; and Neal I. Fox, Assistant Commissioner for Commercial Acquisition, Federal Supply Service, General Services Administration.

CHILDREN AND WORKING PARENTS

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: On Thursday, April 22, Subcommittee on Children and Families concluded a hearing to examine working parents and their children, focusing on early childhood education, elder care programs, the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), and workplace flexibility, after receiving testimony from Ellen Galinsky, Families and Work Institute, Joy Bunson, JPMorgan Chase, and Carol Evans, Working Mother Media, all of New York, New York; Michael Shum, IBM, White Plains, New York, and Donna M. Klein, Washington, D.C., both on behalf of Corporate Voices for Working Families; Karen Kornbluh, New America Foundation, and Zoila Martinez and Manuel Martinez, all of Washington, D.C.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Subcommittee on Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services concluded a hearing to examine mental health in children and youth, focusing on issues throughout the developmental process, and S. 1704, to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a State family support grant program to end the practice of parents giving legal custody of their seriously emotionally disturbed children to State agencies for the purpose of obtaining mental health services for those children, after receiving testimony from Joy D. Osofsky, Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center, New Orleans, on behalf of ZERO TO THREE; Marleen Li Chen Wong, Los Angeles Unified School District, and the National Center for Child Traumatic Stress, Van Nuys, California; Louise A. Douce, The Ohio State University, Sunbury; Maryann Davis, University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester; Linda Champion, Montgomery, Alabama, on behalf of the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill; Barbara Altenburger, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on behalf of the Parents Involved Network, and the Mental Health Association of Southern Pennsylvania.

HEALTHY MARRIAGE

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Subcommittee on Children and Families concluded a hearing to examine how to promote a healthy marriage, focusing on the Healthy Marriage Initiative, the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families program, and discouraging teen pregnancy, after receiving testimony from Wade F. Horn, Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Service for Children and Families; Barbara Dafoe Whitehead, Rutgers University National Marriage Project, Amherst, Massachusetts; Roland C. Warren, National Fatherhood Initiative, Germantown, Maryland; Frank Keating, American Council of Life Insurers, McLean, Virginia; Stan E. Weed, Institute for Research and Evaluation, Salt Lake City, Utah.

TRIBAL CONTRACT SUPPORT COST

Committee on Indian Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine S. 2172, to make technical amendments to the provisions of the Indian Self Determination and Education Assistance Act relating to contract support costs, after receiving testimony from William A. Sinclair, Director, Office of Self-Governance and Self-Determination, Department of the Interior; Charles W. Grim, Assistant Surgeon General, Director, Indian Health Service, Department of Health and Human Services; W. Ron Allen, James-

town S'Klallam Tribe, Sequim, Washington, on behalf of the National Congress of American Indians; Chadwick Smith, Cherokee Nation, Tahlequah, Oklahoma; Herbert L. Fenster, McKenna, Long, and Aldridge, LLP, Denver, Colorado; and Lloyd B. Miller, Sonosky, Chambers, Sachse, Miller and Munson, LLP, Anchorage, Alaska.

PLAYWRIGHTS LICENSING ANTITRUST INITIATIVE ACT

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine S. 2349, to modify the application of the antitrust laws to permit collective development and implementation of a standard contract form for playwrights for the licensing of their plays, focusing on safeguarding the future of American live theater, after receiving testimony from Gerald Schoenfeld, Shubert Organization, Inc., on behalf of League of American Theatres and Producers, Inc., Roger S. Berlind, Berlind Productions, Inc., Stephen Sondheim, and Wendy Wasserstein, all of New York, New York; and Arthur Miller, Roxbury, Connecticut.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee held closed hearings on intelligence matters, receiving testimony from officials of the intelligence community.

Committee recessed subject to call.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Measures Introduced: 22 public bills, H.R. 4225–4246; 5 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 409 and H. Res. 608–611, were introduced. Pages H2482–83

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages H2483-84

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows: H.R. 2771, to amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to reauthorize the New York City Watershed Protection Program (H. Rept. 108–476). Page H2482 Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Miller of Florida to act as Speaker Pro Tempore for today.

Page H2409

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Surface Transportation Extension Act of 2004, Part II: H.R. 4219, to provide an extension of highway, highway safety, motor carrier safety, transit, and other programs funded out of the Highway

Trust Fund pending enactment of a law reauthorizing the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century, by a 2/3 yea-and-nay vote of 410 yeas with none voting "nay", Roll No. 134;

Pages H2412-19, H2427-28

Wilkie D. Ferguson, Jr. United States Courthouse Designation Act: S. 1904, to designate the United States courthouse located at 400 North Miami Avenue in Miami, Florida, as the "Wilkie D. Ferguson, Jr. United States Courthouse", by a 2/3 yea-and-nay vote of 408 yeas with none voting "nay", Roll No. 135—clearing the measure for the President;

Pages H2419–20, H2428–29

Authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby: H. Con. Res. 376, authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby;

Pages H2420-22 Ronald Reagan Federal Building Designation Act: S. 2043, to designate a Federal building in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, as the "Ronald Reagan Federal Building"—clearing the measure for the President;

Page H2422

Authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the National Peace Officers' Memorial Service: H. Con. Res. 388, amended, authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the National Peace Officers' Memorial Service; and

Pages H2422-23

Increased Capital Access for Growing Business Act: H.R. 3170, to amend the Investment Company Act of 1940 to provide incentives for small business investment.

Pages H2423-24

Recess: The House recessed at 12:23 p.m. and reconvened at 1:50 p.m. Page H2429

Permanent Extension of the Marriage Penalty Provisions in the Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2001: The House passed H.R. 4181, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the increased standard deduction, and the 15-percent individual income tax rate bracket expansion, for married taxpayers filing joint returns, by a recorded vote of 323 ayes to 95 noes, Roll No. 138.

Pages H2429-49

The amendment printed in part A of H. Rept. 108–470 was considered as adopted. Page H2429

Rejected the Rangel amendment in the nature of a substitute printed in part B of H. Rept. 108–470 by a yea-and-nay vote of 189 yeas to 226 nays, Roll No. 136.

Pages H2438–46

Rejected the Stenholm motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Ways and Means with instructions by a yea-and-nay vote of 199 yeas to 220 nays, Roll No. 137.

Pages H2447-48

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the marriage penalty relief provided under the Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2001.

Page H2449

H. Res. 607, the rule providing for consideration of the bill was agreed to by a voice vote.

Pages H2424-27

Meeting Hour: Agreed that when the House adjourn on Friday, April 30 it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 4 for Morning Hour debate.

Page H2451

Calendar Wednesday: Agreed to dispense with the Calendar Wednesday business of Wednesday, May 5.

Page H245

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe—Appointment: The Chair announced the Speaker's appointment of Representative McIntyre to

the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe. Page H2451

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate today appears on page H2409.

Senate Referral: S. 2315 was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce. Page H2481

Quorum Calls—Votes: Four yea-and-nay votes and one recorded vote developed during the proceedings today and appear on pages H2427–28, H2428–29, H2446, H2448, and H2448–49. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 9:58 p.m.

Committee Meetings

AGRICULTURAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS

Committee on Agriculture: Held a hearing to review Agricultural Trade Negotiations. Testimony was heard from Ann M. Veneman, Secretary of Agriculture; and Robert B. Zoellick, U.S. Trade Representative.

LABOR, HHS, EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies held a hearing on Global Disease. Testimony was heard from Julie L. Gerberding, M.D., Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Department of Health and Human Services.

LEGISLATIVE APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Legislative held a hearing on GPO. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the GPO: Bruce R. James, Public Printer of the United States; William H. Turri, Deputy Public Printer; Steven T. Shedd, Chief Financial Officer; and Marc A. Nichols, Inspector General.

The Subcommittee also held a hearing on the Capitol Police. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Capitol Police Board: Wilson Livingood, Sergeant at Arms, U.S. House of Representatives, Chairman; William H. Pickle, Sergeant at Arms, U.S. Senate; Alan M. Hantman, Architect of the Capitol; and Terrance W. Gainer, Chief, U.S. Capitol Police; and Members of the Board.

TRANSPORTATION, TREASURY AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Transportation, Treasury and Independent Agencies held a

hearing on the Federal Transit Administration. Testimony was heard from Jennifer L. Dorn, Administrator, Federal Transit Administration, Department of Transportation.

LABOR DEPARTMENT'S FINAL OVERTIME REGULATIONS WORKERS AND EMPLOYERS

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Held a hearing entitled "Assessing the Impact of the Labor Department's Final Overtime Regulations on Workers and Employers Overtime Regulations." Testimony was heard from Elaine Chao, Secretary of Labor; and public witnesses.

SATELLITE HOME VIEWER IMPROVEMENT ACT REAUTHORIZATION

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet approved for full Committee action, as amended, a measure reauthorizing the Satellite Home Viewer Improvement Act

TRIA REVIEW—EFFECT ON THE ECONOMY

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Capital Markets, Insurance, and Government Sponsored Enterprise and the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a joint hearing entitled: "A Review of TRIA and Its Effect on the Economy: Helping America Move Forward." Testimony was heard from Wayne A. Abernathy, Assistant Secretary, Financial Institutions, Department of the Treasury; Richard J. Hillman, Director, Financial Markets and Community Investment, GAO; and Gregory V. Serio, Superintendent, Department of Insurance, State of New York.

PRESIDENTIAL \$1 COIN ACT OF 2004; COIN AND CURRENCY DESIGN AND COUNTERFEITING ISSUES

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Domestic and International Monetary Policy, Trade and Technology approved for full Committee action, as amended, H.R. 3916, Presidential \$1 Coin Act of 2004.

Prior to this action, the Subcommittee held a hearing entitled "Money Matters: Coin and Currency Design and Counterfeiting Issues. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of the Treasury: Henrietta H. Fore, Director, United States Mint; Thomas A. Ferguson, Director, Bureau of Engraving and Printing; Bruce Townsend, Deputy Assistant Director, Office of Investigations, U.S. Secret Service, Department of Homeland Security; Jeffrey C. Marquardt, Associate Director, Reserve Bank Operations and Payments Systems, Board of Governors, Federal Reserve System; and public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT—GPO

Committee on House Administration: Held a oversight hearing on the GPO. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the GPO: Bruce T. James, Public Printer of the United States; and Marc A. Nichols, Inspector General; Linda D. Koontz, Director, Information Management Issues, GAO; and public witnesses.

UN OIL-for-FOOD PROGRAM

Committee on International Relations: Held a hearing on the United Nations Oil-for-Food Program: Issues of Accountability and Transparency. Testimony was heard from Joseph A. Christoff, Director, International Affairs and Trade, GAO; and public witnesses.

NORTH KOREA: HUMAN RIGHTS, REFUGEES AND HUMANITARIAN CHALLENGES

Committee on International Relations: Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific and the Subcommittee on International Terrorism, Nonproliferation and Human Rights held a joint hearing on North Korea: Human Rights, Refugees and Humanitarian Challenges. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

U.S. GOVERNMENT AND THE EUROPEAN UNION RECOGNIZING 50 YEARS OF RELATIONS

Committee on International Relations: Subcommittee on Europe approved for full Committee action, as amended, H. Res. 577, Recognizing 50 years of relations between the United States Government and the European Union.

CRITICAL HABITAT REFORM ACT

Committee on Resources: Held a hearing on H.R. 2933, Critical Habitat Reform Act of 2003. Testimony was heard from Judge Craig Manson, Assistant Secretary, Fish, Wildlife and Parks, Department of the Interior; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Resources: Subcommittee on Forests and Forest Health held a hearing on the following bills: H.R. 3744, To authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to sell or exchange all or part of certain administrative sites and other land in the Ozark-St. Francis and Ouachita National Forests and to use funds derived from the sale or exchange to acquire, construct, or improve administrative sites; S. 33, To authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to sell or exchange all or part of certain administrative sites and other land in the Ozark-St. Francis and Ouachita National Forests and to use funds derived from the sale or exchange to acquire, construct, or improve administrative sites;

S. 434, Idaho Panhandle National Forest Improvement Act of 2003; S. 435, Sandpoint Land and Facilities Conveyance Act of 2003; and S. 1537, To direct the Secretary of Agriculture to convey to the New Hope Cemetery Association certain land in the State of Arkansas for use as a cemetery. Testimony was heard from Representative Ross; and Tom Thompson, Deputy Chief, National Forest System, USDA.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY BUDGET FISCAL YEAR 2005.

Committee on Science: Subcommittee on Environment, Technology, and Standards held a hearing entitled "Fiscal Year 2005 National Institute of Standards and Technology Budget: Views from Industry." Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

INTEGRATED DEEPWATER SYSTEM

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation held a hearing on Integrated Deepwater System. Testimony was heard from VADM Thomas J. Barrett, USCG, Vice Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard. Department of Homeland Security; and public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT—AGING WATER SUPPLY INFRASTRUCTURE

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment held an oversight hearing on Aging Water Supply Infrastructure. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

DVA—RESEARCH ON ALZHEIMER'S, DIABETES AND PARKINSON'S DISEASES

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing on the Department of Veterans Affairs' research on Alzheimer's, Diabetes and Parkinson's diseases. Testimony was heard from Judith Salerno, M.D., Deputy Director, National Institute on Aging, NIH, Department of Health and Human Services; and the following officials of the Department of Veterans Affairs: Michael Kussman, M.D., Acting Deputy Under Secretary for Health and Timothy J. O'Leary, M.D., Director, Biomedical Laboratory R&D Services, Office of Chief Research and Development Officer, both with the Veterans Health Administration; Franklin J. Zieve, M.D., Associate Chief of Staff for Research, Richmond VA Medical Center; Robert Ferrante, Director, Experimental Neuropathology Program, Geriatric Research, Education and Clinical Center, Bedford VA Medical Center; and Mary Sano,

M.D., Acting Chief of Staff for Research, Bronx VA Medical Center.

OVERSIGHT DOMESTIC PREPAREDNESS FIRST RESPONDER ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Select Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness and Response held an oversight hearing entitled "The Office for Domestic Preparedness First Responder Assistance Programs." Testimony was heard from C. Suzanne Mencer, Director, Office for Domestic Preparedness, Department of Homeland Security; and Dennis R. Schrader, Director, Governor's Office of Homeland Security, State of Maryland.

Joint Meetings

CONSUMER-DIRECTED DOCTORING

Joint Economic Committee: Committee concluded a hearing to examine consumer-directed doctoring, focusing on alternatives to the traditional third-party payer health care system, innovative and entrepreneurial doctors who respond to gaps in the current medical care system, and reducing medical liability pressures, after receiving testimony from Robert S. Berry, PATMOS EmergiClinic, Inc., Greeneville, Tennessee; Alieta Eck, Zarephath Health Center, Zarephath, New Jersey; Bernard Kaminetsky, Colton and Kaminetsky, Boca Raton, Florida; and Robert A. Berenson, Urban Institute, Washington, D.C.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, APRIL 29, 2004

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary, to hold hearings to examine intellectual property rights, focusing on the problems of counterfeiting and piracy, 10 a.m., SD–192.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: to hold hearings to examine counterterror initiatives and concerns in the terror finance program; and to hold a business meeting to consider the nominations of Romolo A. Bernardi, of New York, to be Deputy Secretary, Dennis C. Shea, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary for Policy Development and Research, and Cathy M. MacFarlane, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs, all of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, 10 a.m., SD-538.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Oceans, Fisheries, and Coast Guard, to hold an oversight hearing to examine National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce, 10 a.m., SR–253.

Committee on Foreign Relations: business meeting to consider pending calendar business, Time to be announced, S–116, Capitol.

Subcommittee on International Operations and Terrorism, to hold hearings to examine the Broadcasting Board of Governors, focusing on finding the right media for the message in the Middle East, 2:30 p.m., SD-419.

Committee on Governmental Affairs: to hold a hearing to examine the nomination of Dawn A. Tisdale, of Texas, to be a Commissioner of the Postal Rate Commission; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine the nomination of David Safavian, of Michigan, to be Administrator for Federal Procurement Policy, Office of Management and Budget, 10 a.m., SD–342.

Committee on Indian Affairs: to hold hearings to examine S. 2301, to improve the management of Indian fish and wildlife and gathering resources, 10 a.m., SR-485.

Committee on the Judiciary: business meeting to consider S. 1735, to increase and enhance law enforcement resources committed to investigation and prosecution of violent gangs, to deter and punish violent gang crime, to protect law abiding citizens and communities from violent criminals, to revise and enhance criminal penalties for violent crimes, to reform and facilitate prosecution of juvenile gang members who commit violent crimes, to expand and improve gang prevention programs, S. 2107, to authorize an annual appropriations of \$10,000,000 for mental health courts through fiscal year 2009, S. 2192, to amend title 35, United States Code, to promote cooperative research involving universities, the public sector, and private enterprises, S. 1933, to promote effective enforcement of copyrights, S. 2237, to amend chapter 5 of title 17, United States Code, to authorize civil copyright enforcement by the Attorney General, S. 1932, to provide criminal penalties for unauthorized recording of motion pictures in a motion picture exhibition facility, to provide criminal and civil penalties for unauthorized distribution of commercial prerelease copyrighted works, H.R. 1561, to amend title 35, United States Code, with respect to patent fees, S. 1635, to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to ensure the integrity of the L-1 visa for intracompany transferees, S. 1609, to make aliens ineligible to receive visas and exclude aliens from admission into the United States for nonpayment of child support, S. 1129, to provide for the protection of unaccompanied alien children, S. Res. 334, designating May 2004 as National Electrical Safety Month, and the nominations of Henry W. Saad, of Michigan, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit, William Duane Benton, of Missouri, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eighth Circuit, Robert Bryan Harwell, to be United States District Judge for the District of South Carolina, George P. Schiavelli, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California, and Curtis V. Gomez, to be Judge for the District Court of the Virgin Islands, 9:30 a.m., SD-226.

Select Committee on Intelligence: closed business meeting to mark up proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 2005 for the intelligence community, 2:30 p.m., SH–219.

House

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, Export Financing and Related Programs, on Security Assistance Budget Request, 10 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies, on Substance Abuse and Mental Health Research and Services, 10 a.m., 2358 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Transportation, Treasury, and Independent Agencies, on Federal Highway Administration (Environmental Streamlining), 10 a.m., 2358 Rayburn.

Committee on Armed Services, hearing on Afghanistan: Security and Reconstruction, 9 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and the Workforce, Subcommittee on Employer-Employee Relations, hearing entitled "Examining Long-Term Solutions To Reform and Strengthen the Defined Benefit Pension System," 10:30 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade, and Consumer Protection, hearing entitled "Spyware: What You Don't Know Can Hurt You," 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Energy and Air Quality, hearing entitled "Ultradeep Water Research and Development: What Are the Benefits?" 10:30 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

Committee on Government Reform, hearing entitled "Transforming the National Guard: Resourcing for Readiness," 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Immigration, Border Security and Claims, oversight hearing entitled "The Diversity Visa Program, and Its Susceptibility to Fraud and Abuse," 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Resources, Subcommittee on Fisheries Conservation, Wildlife, and Oceans, an oversight hearing on the International Aspects of Fish and Wildlife Conservation and Management, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Subcommittee on National Parks, Recreation, and Public Lands, hearing on the following bills: H.R. 3638, Redwood National Park Boundary Adjustment Act of 2003; H.R. 3932, To amend Public Law 99–338 to authorize the continued use of certain lands within the Sequoia National Park by portions of an existing hydroelectric project; and S. 144, Noxious Weed Control Act of 2003, 10 a.m., 1334 Longworth.

Committee on Rules, hearing to address mass incapacitation of Members and the quorum requirement in the context of the Continuity of Congress, 10 a.m., H–313 Capitol.

Committee on Small Business, Subcommittee on Workforce, Empowerment and Government Programs, hearing on Would an Increase in the Federal Minimum Wage Help or Hinder Small Business? 10:30 a.m., 311 Cannon.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Aviation, oversight hearing on The Cape Town Treaty; followed by a markup of the following: H.R. 4226, The Cape Town Treaty Implementation Act of 2004; and H.R. 4056, Commercial Aviation MANPADS Defense Act of 2004, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Subcommittee on Benefits, hearing on the following measures: H.R. 348, Prisoners of War Benefits Act of 2003; H.R. 843, Injured Veterans Benefits Eligibility Act of 2003; H.R. 1735, To amend title 38, United States Code, to increase the maximum amount of a home loan guarantee available to a veteran; H.R. 2206, Prisoner of War/Missing in Action National Memorial Act; H.R. 2612, Veterans Adapted Housing Expansion Act of 2003; H.R. 4065, Veterans Housing Affordability Act of 2004; H.R. 3936, To amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the principal office of the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims to be at any location in the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area, rather than only in the District of Columbia, and expressing the sense of Congress that a dedicated Veterans Courthouse and Justice Center should be provided for that Court and those it serves and should be located, if feasible, at a site owned by the United States that is part of or proximate to the Pentagon Reservation; H.R. 4172, to amend title 38, United States Code, to codify certain additional diseases as establishing a presumption of service-connection when occurring in veterans exposed to ionizing radiation during active military, naval, or air service; H.R. 4173, To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to contract for a report on employment placement, retention, and advancement of recently separated servicemembers; and a measure to create an open period for certain active duty servicemembers to elect to participate in the program of basic educational assistance under the Montgomery GI Bill, 10 a.m., 334 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Human Resources, hearing on the Supplemental Security Income Program, 10 a.m., B–318 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Trade, hearing on trade with sub-Saharan Africa and H.R. 4103, AGOA Acceleration Act of 2004, 1:30 p.m., 1100 Longworth.

Next Meeting of the SENATE 9:30 a.m., Thursday, April 29

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 10 a.m., Thursday, April 29

Senate Chamber

Program for Thursday: After the transaction of any morning business (not to extend beyond 11 a.m.), Senate will continue consideration of S. 150. Internet Tax Nondiscrimination Act, with a vote on the motion to invoke cloture on Daschle Amendment No. 3050, to occur at approximately 12 noon; if cloture is not invoked, Senate will then vote on the motion to invoke cloture on Domenici Amendment No. 3051: and if cloture is not invoked. Senate will then vote on the motion to invoke cloture on McCain Amendment No. 3048.

House Chamber

Program for Thursday: The House will meet at 10 a.m. in pro forma session.

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